



Docket No.: 364/116

IPW

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant : Roland HAURI  
Serial No. : 10/646,403  
Filed : August 22, 2003  
For : CHILL TUBE  
Group Art Unit : 1725  
Examiner : Kuang Y. LIN  
Confirmation No. : 9253

Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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Date: February 14, 2005 Reg. No. 31,792

Signature:

Richard M. Rosati

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT  
AND REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF TIME**

SIR:

In response to the requirement for election of species contained in the Office Action dated January 4, 2005, applicant elects, with traverse, the species of claims 1-3, 6-8 and 13 for further prosecution on the merits. The species of claims 1-3, 6-8 and 13 is "a chill tube made of copper for a continuous casting of metals, wherein the wall thickness in the longitudinal edge regions is dimensioned to be 10% to 40% less than the wall thickness of wall regions between the longitudinal edge regions." Claims 1-3, 6-8 and 13 are readable on the elected species. Currently, claim 1 is believed to be generic.

Applicant respectfully requests that, upon the allowance of a generic claim, claims directed to other species including all the limitations of the generic claim be considered, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.141. Currently, claim 1 is believed to be generic to the elected species and one or more of the other identified species.

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It is respectfully submitted that the election requirement should be withdrawn for the following reasons. The present invention provides a chill tube made of copper for the continuous casting of metals, which ensures, particularly at casting speeds greater than 2.5 m/min, a flawless conduction of heat from the metal to be cast to a cooling medium. For this purpose, the wall thickness in at least the longitudinal edge regions is dimensioned to be 10% to 40% less than the wall thickness of wall regions between the longitudinal edge regions. This feature is common to all embodiments of the invention (in the alternative embodiment the wall thickness is reduced over an entire circumference by 10% to 40% of the nominal wall thickness). All the claims are directed to a single problem to be solved and have this common limitation. Hence, it is believed that a search and examination of claims 1-13 of the application can be made without undue burden. Moreover, the various species of claims identified by the Examiner are not asserted to belong to differing classes or subclasses. Thus, the searches performed for all of the currently pending claims would overlap. For these reasons, applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the election requirement.

#### **REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF TIME**

Applicant respectfully requests a one-month extension of time in which to respond to the Office Action mailed January 4, 2005 for which a one-month response period, expiring on February 4, 2005, was set. The one-month extended period for response expires on March 4, 2005. Please charge the one-month extension fee of **\$120.00**, and any additional fees that may be required to Deposit Account No. 11-0600.

Respectfully submitted,



Dated: February 14, 2005

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KENYON & KENYON  
By: Richard M. Rosati  
Reg. No. 31,792

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